

**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE  
STATE OF IOWA COMMISSION OF ELDER AFFAIRS  
Urbandale Public Library  
October 8, 2002**

**Present:** Harold Davis  
Craig Downing  
J. Russell Lowe  
Clemmie Hightower  
Rep. David Johnson  
Rep. Todd Taylor

**Absent:** Hazel Chuck  
Jane Paulsen  
Yogesh Shah  
Sen. Joe Bolkom  
Sen. Sheldon Rittmer

**Others present:** Mark Haverland, Greg Anliker, Mary Ann Young, Sherry James, Joel Wulf, Nicki Stajcar, Linda Hildreth, Todd Savage, Jim Matre, Mardi Barnes.

**Call to Order**

Chairperson Harold Davis called the regular business meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The Recording Secretary conducted roll call. The following members answered roll call: Harold Davis, Clemmie Hightower, Craig Downing, J. Russell Lowe. A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

Chairman Davis determined the agenda be approved as written and presented.

**Minutes**

**Action:** Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Lowe seconded, the minutes of the June 20 and June 28, 2002 State of Iowa Commissioners of the Elder Affairs be approved as written. All members present voted “aye”.

**Director's Report**

- ♦ Mark reported the last meeting of the Dementia Specific Rules for Assisted Living was held on Monday, October 7. Staff is in the process of finalizing this transition of moving the regulatory process from DEA to DIA. Legislators will begin reviewing this process in January.
- ♦ DEA is required by the Accountability Act to prepare a Strategic Plan. The first part of this project includes the goals/measures/strategies. The first draft was submitted to the Department

of Management for their review. We will be required to report performance measures on the core activities measurable outcomes for our customers.

- ◆ Mark reviewed the new organizational chart. One secretary has left the department and her position will be refilled. An Accounting Tech was hired as well as the Director for the Seamless Project.
- ◆ Joe Shapiro from the National Public Radio was in Des Moines last week and interviewed some industry personnel as well as Steve Young, DIA, and Mark relative to Assisted Living Projects. He also interviewed a family that had recently received notification to move due to level of care issues. No date has been announced for it to be aired.
- ◆ Greg reported the 2004 budget was submitted status quo. There were very few changes with the difficult budget year. The department did submit three white papers requesting funding for the following: Resident Advocate Committee; Assisted Living Programs; Adult Day Care. These are three important issues that the legislators and the Governor's office are aware that we need additional funding in order to continue the program.
- ◆ Greg also reported the Department continues to be aggressive in applying for grants. We have been the recipient of several grants this year that have allowed some of our programs to continue for Older Iowans: Operation Restore Trust (ORT); Performance Outcome Measures (POM); Seamless; Alzheimer's.
- ◆ Mark distributed the current organizational chart. He reported recent changes of the addition of an accounting tech and the advertising to replace a Secretary I position.

### **Communication**

Mark requested the Commissioners assist him in improving communication between them and the department and increase the department's ability to work with the commissioners. He asked what tools they needed to help them do their job better. Some suggestions were an acronym list to explain some of the acronyms that the department uses in communication. Commissioner Downing reported he felt it was a great idea to communicate more and keep the commissioners informed on issues to assist them to be pro-active with issues that the media or constituents might be interested in knowing more about.

### **Administrative Rules**

#### **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Administrative Rules, Chapter 14:**

Mary Ann updated the Commissioner's on the RSVP Rules. The State RSVP Committee has drafted revised Iowa Administrative Code 321, Chapter 14. The revisions update the Administrative Code Section, define the responsibilities of the State Committee and outline the grant process. If approved by the Commission, the rules will be filed as Notice of Intended Action with a public comment period following.

Action: Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Lowe seconded, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Administrative Rules be adopted as presented. All members present voted "aye".

### **Task Force Recommendation**

Mark reported the final draft for the Governor's task force recommendations was received this week. Dr. Stephen Gleason chaired the task force. The task force meetings were open to the public. For the most part, the recommendations were very positive for the Department of Elder Affairs and Mark was pleased with the direction. The task force recommended the DEA remains as a department and continues to improve relationships with the AAA's. Some further legislative issues will be considered when the 80<sup>th</sup> General Session begins in January.

### **Older Iowan's Legislature**

Mary Ann reported the top five priority bills and all bills that passed have been published on the department's web site as well as mailed to the OIL delegates. Staff is working on completion of the OIL journal to be sent to all legislators. Several DEA staff members testified in committee and did much preparation for this year's session. Delegates and staff are preparing for next year's session.

### **Elder Abuse Initiative Update**

Todd Savage presented information regarding elder abuse prevention and elder rights activities. These activities have been accomplished by combining federal and state funds as well as grants. One of the activities the Department has developed is an Elder Abuse Prevention Initiative in which \$327,800 is utilized from the Senior Living Trust to employ persons dedicated to assist in the assessment of elder abuse as well as provide training, public awareness, legislative advocacy and services to persons 60 and older. The goals of the efforts involve the prevention, detection, reporting and intervention of elder abuse. This program allows for regional prevention coordinators (AAA staff) to go with Adult Abuse Evaluators and assist with assessments of dependency and arrange for services so that elders may remain safe in their home.

Other activities include diversion/education program to offenders; Senior Medicare Waste Patrol (Operation Restore Trust of Iowa); End of Life Coalition; Substitute Decision Makers task force; developing many training guides; conducting public forums; financial exploitation training sessions; promotional materials; development of the Dependent Adult Abuse Conference and many others.

### **Legislative Issues**

Joel Wulf presented proposals for legislative bills for submission to the 2003 Session of the Iowa's 80<sup>th</sup> General Assembly. The bills include Iowa Code 235B and 726.3, Adult Abuse and Prevention; and Iowa Code Chapter 231, Elder Iowan's Act.

Iowa Code 235B states the department shall establish and operate a dependent adult abuse services program. The program shall emphasize the reporting and evaluation of cases of abuse of a dependent adult who is unable to protect the adult's own interests or unable to perform activities necessary to meet essential human needs. Chapter 726.3 defines Dependent Adult Abuse.

Action: Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Lowe seconded, to support Iowa Code 235B and 726.3. A roll call vote resulted in all members present voting "aye".

Iowa Code 231 is the Iowa Department of Elder Affairs chapter and lists policy and objectives; definitions; commissioner's terms, etc.

Action: Commissioner Downing moved, Commissioner Hightower seconded, to support the Iowa Code Chapter 231. A roll call vote resulted in all members present voting "aye".

### **Update on Services Provided**

Greg Anliker presented the Senior Living Data for July and August as well as the Unmet Needs Report.

### **"And Thou Shalt Honor"**

Nicki Stajcar reported Iowa Public Television would be broadcasting a program entitled "And Thou Shalt Honor" on Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 PM. The program documents an exciting new stage in our cultural development. Advances in medical technology made it possible for individuals to survive for years with diseases and chronic conditions that would have caused a rapid death just a few year ago. Though laudable, this created a new population of persons in need of care giving. Nicki reminded the Commissioners that it was very possible that everyone would either be a caregiver or be cared for by a caregiver. Nicki presented a 15-minute video of the program.

### **Other**

The next meeting of the Commissioner will be on Thursday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be discussed at this time, the meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.

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Chair

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Date

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Recording Secretary